

REMARKS**Claim Objections**

Claims 1-4, 6-9, 12-13, 15,16 and 18 were objected to as containing a grammatical informality. These claims have been amended to remove the grammatical informality by removing the article "and", as suggested in the Office Action. Withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 USC §112 ¶2

Claims 15-19 were rejected under 35 USC §112 ¶2 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that applicant regards as his invention. The amendments hereto change the preamble of each claim to more clearly set forth the antecedent basis for the "digital prescription carrier apparatus." Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 USC 103

Claims 1-19 were rejected under 35 USC §103 (a) as being obvious over Goetz, U.S. Patent 6,397,190. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicant invented the subject matter set forth in Claims 1-19 before July 22, 1998, the earliest possible effective filing date in the United States for the Goetz reference. An affidavit swearing behind the Goetz reference under 37 CFR 1.131, together with documents in support of said affidavit, is annexed hereto as Exhibit Two.

Conclusion

Each of the amendments made herein do not affect the breadth or intended scope of the claims. Rather, amendments have been made to comply with recommendations made by the examiner in order to remove minor informalities noted in the Office Action.

Having fully responded to the Office Action, the Applicant respectfully requests that the application be allowed. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above and foregoing Amendment, together with attachments, exhibits, affidavits, and annexes, was sent via telefacsimile to United States Patent & Trademark Office, ATTN: Carolyn M. Block, fax number 703-305-7687, on August 13, 2002



David E. Herron II